

Welcoming remarks by Mr. Vladimir Voronkov
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Consultation Round Table Meeting: An Integrated Approach to
Rehabilitation and Reintegration for Violent Extremist Prisoners.

19 October 2021

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,
Dear participants,

It is a pleasure to address you today at the opening of this roundtable meeting on the important— but very challenging— topic of rehabilitation and reintegration of violent extremist prisoners.

First, I would like to warmly thank Dr. Johnson Byabashaija, Commissioner General of the Uganda Prisons Service, for co-hosting this timely discussion.

I also would like to thank the representatives of the European Union and the Netherlands for their generous contribution to the project on “Supporting the management of violent extremist prisoners and the prevention of radicalization to violence in prisons,” which is implemented not only in Uganda, but also in Kazakhstan and Tunisia.

I am very proud of the partnership with the United Nations Office on Drugs and

Prison officials work on the frontlines of the fight against terrorism and extremism. However, as underlined in Security Council Resolution 2396, prison officials should not be expected to undertake the important tasks of rehabilitation and reintegration alone.

Preventing and countering violent extremism requires an 'all-of-society' approach. The prison service, communities, civil society organizations, media, academia and local leaders must come together and cooperate for these efforts to be successful.

This is why I am especially pleased that this event brings together government agencies, civil society and academia to share best practices and agree on a plan of action for an integrated approach for rehabilitation and reintegration in prisons.

I hope that thes